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SUBJECT: PORTUGAL'S PLANS REGARDING THE PARTNERSHIP FOR
DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE

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MFA International Organizations Officer Rui Caroco reported that, although Portugal fully supports the ideals of the new OECD initiative (reftel), the GOP has decided against becoming a founding member at this time. Caroco said Secretary of State Joao Cravinho made the decision largely

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due to budgetary and manpower constraints. He noted that Portugal may be able to participate in the future, especially once the responsibilities of the EU Presidency and Chairmanship of the Community of Democracies Convening Group are over.
Hoffman